

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

USIE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 IO-10 L-03

NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 NSC-05 ERDE-00 NRC-05 EB-07

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O R 241335Z OCT 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4216

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 5792

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR

SUBJECT: MBFR: OPTION III: AIR MANPOWER: SPC MEETING OCTOBER 23

REFS: A) USNATO 5618 DTG 161034Z OCT 75; ?) STATE 251742 DTG

230031Z OCT 75; C) USNATO 5725 DTG 211625Z OCT 75

SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE REPORT ON AIR MANPOWER ASPECTS OF SPC DISCUSSION OF OPTION III OCTOBER 23 (OTHER ASPECTS REPORTED SEPTEL). MAIN ITEM OF DISCUSSION WAS QUESTION OF APPROXIMATE PARITY IN AIR MANPOWER. ACTION REQUESTED: SEE PARA 12 BELOW. END SUMMARY

1. SPEC DISCUSSION OF AIR MANPOWER ISSUES AT OCTOBER 23 OPTION III MEETING BEGAN WITH FRG "OR" VERSION OF FINAL TIC OF PARA 1 OF DRAFT GUIDANCE (REF A).

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2. US REP (MOORE) DREW ON PARA 1, REF B RE THE BELGIAN PHRASE "SINCE AN APPROXIMATE PARITY IN AIR FORCE MANPOWER ALREADY EXISTS BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES". UK REP (BAILES) AGREED, AND THOUGHT THAT PARA 16 OF THE POSITION PAPER MIGHT SIMPLY STATE THAT WHAT WAS

SAID PREVIOUSLY ABOUT APPROXIMATE PARITY IN AIR FORCE MANPOWER REMAINS IN EFFECT. HOWEVER, FRG REP (HOYNCK) SAID FRG CONSIDERS APPROXIMATE PARITY IN AIR MANPOWER AS A PRE-CONDITION FOR A COMBINED COMMON CEILING. THE FACT THAT THE AHG CAN TELL THE EAST THAT ACCORDING TO ALLIED DATA THERE IS APPROXIMATE PARITY IN AIR FORCE MANPOWER DOES NOT MAKE THIS POINT. BONN COULD IMAGINE ADDING A SENTENCE TO THIS TIC AUTHORIZING THE AHG TO POINT OUT AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME THAT THIS IS A PRE-CONDITION.

3. UK REP POINTED OUT THAT WHAT FRG IS PROPOSING CHANGES THE WHOLE NATURE OF THE BELGIAN SUGGESTION. SPC HAS NOT REACHED THE POINT OF CONSIDERING THAT APPROXIMATE PARITY IN AIR MANPOWER SHOULD BE A PRE-CONDITION. US AND BELGIAN REPS AGREE. HOWEVER, BELGIAN REP (WILLOT) PROPOSED THE FOLLOWING FINAL SENTENCE TO THE TIC IN QUESTION: "WHEN APPROPRIATE, THE AHG SHOULD TELL THE OTHER SIDE THAT THE FOREGOING IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE FACT THAT THERE IS APPROXIMATE PARITY IN AIR FORCE MANPOWER BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES".

4. FRG REP SAID THIS SENTENCE WAS MORE A "PRE-CONDITION" WAS NOT THE RIGHT WORD TO DESCRIBE WHAT FRG WANTED. FRG WOULD WANT SIMPLY THAT ALLIED NEGOTIATORS BRING OUT THAT THE ALLIES, IN THEIR OFFER OF A COMBINED COMMON CEILING, ARE PARTING FROM THE ASSUMPTION THAT THERE IS APPROXIMATE PARITY IN AIR MANPOWER. BELGIAN REP AMENDED HIS PROPOSAL TO READ "WHEN APPROPRIATE, THE AHG SHOULD TELL THE OTHER SIDE THAT THE FOREGOING IS PROPOSED HAVING IN MIND THAT THERE IS APPROXIMATE PARITY IN AIR FORCE MANPOWER BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES".

5. COMMENT: THE ALLIES SHOULD NOT MAKE APPROXIMATE PARITY IN AIR MANPOWER A PRE-CONDITION FOR THE COMBINED COMMON CEILING, SINCE APPROXIMATE PARITY IN AIR MANPOWER IS NOT ESSENTIAL TO THE COMBINED COMMON CEILING, AND SINCE MAKING IT A PRE-CONDITION WOULD UNNECESSARILY PREJUDICE THE ALLIED POSITION ON REDEFINITION OF FORCES. THE BELGIAN WORKING IN PARA 3 ABOVE CONSTITUTES AN OUTRIGHT PRE-CONDITION. WE WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON THE
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ACCEPTABILITY OF THE BELGIAN WORDING IN PARA 4 ABOVE. IT APPEARS TO US THAT THIS SENTENCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A PRE-CONDITION, AND MIGHT HAVE SOME USE IN PRESSING THE EAST FOR AN EXCHANGE OF DATE. END COMMENT.

6. SPC AGREED TO ADD, AFTER THE PHRASE "900,000 MEN ON EITHER SIDE", THE FOLLOWING: "AND WITHIN WHICH THE COLLECTIVE COMMON CEILING ON GROUND FORCE MANPOWER WOULD BE MAINTAINED" (PARA 2, REF B).

7. US REP SAID THE US COULD ACCEPT THE UK PHRASE FOR ENDING THE LAST TIC OF PARA 1, I.E. CHANGING "SPECIFYING" TO "REQUIRING" SO THE PHRASE WOULD READ "...THAT THE ALLIES WILL NOT ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT REQUIRING REDUCTIONS OF AIR MANPOWER" (PARA 3, REF B). BELGIAN REP SUGGESTED ADDING "THEIR" PRIOR TO "AIR

MANPOWER". NETHERLANDS REP (MEESMAN) LIKE THIS SUGGESTION, AND FRG REP CONSIDERED IT HELPFUL. FRG REP SAID BONN WAS STILL CONSIDERING WHAT LANGUAGE MIGHT BE SUITABLE IN THIS SENTENCE (HE TOLD US PRIVATELY BEFORE THE MEETING THAT HE THOUGHT THE US SUGGESTION OF "REQUIRING" WAS HELPFUL FOR EXPRESSING WHAT FRG HAS IN MIND FOR THIS SENTENCE).

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8. US REP ACCEPTED THE BELGIAN SENTENCE FOR PARA 16 OF THE POSITION PAPER (PARA 13, REF C). COMMENT: BELGIAN REP FOR THE PAST TWO MEETINGS HAS, IN GENERAL, GIVEN STRONG, EFFECTIVE SUPPORT TO THE PRESENT US POSITION ON AIR MANPOWER. HOWEVER, HE SPECIFICALLY NOTED THAT BELGIUM HAS NOT YET FORMALLY WITHDRAWN ITS ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE NO-INCREASE COMMITMENT ON AIR MANPOWER. END COMMENT

9. RE THE UK DRAFT OF AN SPC MANDATE TO THE MBFR WORKING GROUP RE FLEXIBILITY FOR US AND SOVIET CEILINGS AND FOR PERIOD BETWEEN PHASES, US REP NOTED THE PROBLEM POSED BY THE FIRST PART OF THE MANDATE, AND INQUIRED IF UK COULD ACCEPT SIMPLY DELETING THE WHOLE FIRST PART, SO AS NOT TO PREJUDICE ISSUES TO BE TREATED IN PARA 16 OF THE POSITION PAPER. DRAFT MANDATE WOULD THEN BEGIN: "THE WORKING GROUP IS ASKED...", AND THE REMAINDER WOULD BE AS PRESENT. UK REP SAID SHE WAS SURE THIS WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE IF THE SECRET

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WG WERE ABLE TO CONSIDER HOW THE VARIOUS POSSIBILITIES FOR US-SOVIET FLEXIBILITY AND FOR PERIOD BETWEEN PHASES, RELATED TO POST-PHASE II FLEXIBILITY, I. E. WOULD US-SOVIET FLEXIBILITY BE SEPARATE OR CUMULATIVE RE POST-PHASE II FLEXIBILITY.

10. FRG REP SAID FRG WISHED TO GIVE WG A BROAD MANDATE TO DEAL WITH ALL THE QUESTIONS THAT MIGHT COME UP. HE OBSERVED THAT QUESTIONS OF FLEXIBILITY DO NOT NEED TO BE SETTLED PRIOR TO INTRODUCTION OF THE ALLIED OFFER. (UK REP HAD TOLD US THIS IS ALSO UK VIEW.)

11. FRG REP HAS TOLD US PRIVATELY THAT FRG CONTIUES TO EXAMINE WHETHER MORE OF A HOLD ON AIR MANPOWER IS NECESSARY THAN IS CONTAINED IN THE PRESENT FRG PROPOSAL. HE SAID THE FRG HAD NEVER REALLY FOCUSSED ON THE FACT THAT NO SUB-CEILING ON AIR MANPOWER MEANT THAT AIR MANPOWER COULD INCREASE INDEFINITELY AT THE EXPENSE OF GROUND FORCES WITHIN THE COMBINED COMMON CEILING.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: IN TIME FOR SPC MEETING, MONDAY, OCTOBER 27:

A) GUIDANCE REQUESTED IN PARA 5 ABOVE;

B) COMMENT ON BELGIAN SUGGESTION TO INTRODUCE "THEIR",
PER PARA 7 ABOVE;

C) GUIDANCE ON ACCEPTABILITY OF DRAFT MANDATE TO MBFR WG
ALONG LINES OF PARA 9 ABOVE, WITH THE WB STUDY HAVING THE
SCOPE SUGGESTED BY UK REP; AND

D) FURTHER COMMENT ON FLEXIBILITY MARGIN ISSUE IN LIGHT OF
OUR COMMENT IN PARAS 14-16, REF C.
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